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23 July 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Special Assistant to the AD/RR
THROUGH: Chief, Industrial Division, ORR
FROM: Chief, Guided Missile Branch, D/I
SUBJECT: Report of Discussion with [REDACTED]

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1. I met with [REDACTED], for about thirty minutes on 23 July, at her initiative. She had received a request from [REDACTED] for comments on Khrushchev's reported statement to Mr. Harriman that (as she quoted it) "30 billion rubles for ICBMs would be sufficient to destroy all of the industrial centers in the U.S." She stated that she did not know whether [REDACTED] source for the statement was the press or a report possibly received through other channels. In view of this, we discussed it only on the press report basis, without reference to its probable accuracy.

2. The discussion was quite general, touching on (a) the relative size or "buying power" of this figure compared to, for example, the ICBM program considered in last year's missile estimate, and the Badger procurement program in the aircraft field; (b) the deterrent thesis implied by the reference to cities rather than military installations as targets for the ICBM; and (c) the general consistency of the statement relative to published Soviet statements and comments.

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[REDACTED]

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ORR/D/I/GM: [REDACTED]acr/4291 (23 Jul)

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